Chapter 3 Genetics: Reproducing Life and Producing Variation



Cytology: The Study of Cells

- basic units of life
- Complex life forms are made up of <u>billions</u> of cells.
- cells of all organisms share many similarities as a result of their common evolutionary past.

Prokaryotic cells: 3.7 billion years old







Two Types of Cells

Somatic cells are the components of body tissues.

Gametes are sex cells.

Ova (oocytes) are egg cells produced in female ovaries.

Sperm (spermatocytes) are sex cells produced in male testes.

ADA















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DNA Molecule: The Genetic Code



The DNA molecule 3 talents:

- 1. Replicate
- 2. Synthesize
- 3. Regulate

Genome homoplasmic



DNA: The Blueprint of Life

Nucleotides: deoxyribose sugar, a phosphate group, and one of four nitrogenous complimentary bases.



DNA: Replicating the Code



Chromosome Types

- Each species is characterized by a specific number of chromosomes.
 - Humans have 46 chromosomes. (Haploid/Diploid)
- Chromosome pairs are called homologous.
 - carry genetic information influencing the traits.
 - not genetically identical.
 - The **OCUS** is the location of a gene on a chromosome. ABO locus is on chromosome 9.
 - Alleles, homozygous, heterozygous







- Autosomes govern all physical characteristics except sex determination.
- Sex chromosomes X and Y chromosome (mammals).
- Karyotype- position of centromere, banding patterns







Two daughter cells, each containing 46 single-stranded chromosomes



Evolutionary Significance of Meiosis

- Meiosis (and sex) produce variation
- Faster than mutation.
 - The random assortment results in 8 million possible gametes.
 - 70 trillion when mating

223 = 8,388,608 8,388,608 x 8,388,608 = 70,000,000,000,000

• Cross- over produces recombination: also provides genetic diversity for natural selection to act on.

Law of Independent Assortment









Problems With Meiosis

- Nondisjunction errors
- About 50% of pregnancies miscarry.
 - 70% are the result of nondisjunction.
- Down syndrome (trisomy 21)
 - At age 25, 1 in 1,250
 - At age 30, 1 in 1,000
 - At age 35, 1 in 400
 - At age 40, 1 in 100
 - At age 45, 1 in 30
 - At age 49, 1 in 10
- Nondisjunction may also occur in sex chromosomes







Protein Synthesis





Moves out of nucleus to ribosomes in cytoplasm



Ribosomes



Amino Acids



Genes: Structural and Regulatory

Homeotic (Hox) Genes



Polymorphisms: Variations in Specific Genes

- Locus
- Law of Segregation
- Single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs)
- Homozygous and heterozygous





Polymorphisms: Variations in Specific Genes

- Antibodies
- Antigens
- Codominance





The Complexity of Genetics: Polygenic Variation and Pleiotropy

